

SEVENTH DAY.

(Wednesday, May 18, 1927.)

The House met at 10 o'clock a. m., pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by Speaker Bobbitt.

The roll was called and the following members were present:

Acker.	Land.
Albritton.	Lewis.
Alexander.	Lipscomb.
Anderson.	Long.
Barnett.	Loy.
Barron.	Masterson.
Bass.	McCombs.
Bateman.	McGill.
Beck.	Minor.
Bird.	Montgomery.
Black.	Morse.
Boggs.	Moursund.
Bonham.	Murphy.
Boon.	Nabors.
Branch.	Nicholson.
Brice.	Olsen.
Cornwell.	Parrish of Travis.
Cox.	Pavlica.
Cummings.	Pearce.
Daniel.	Poage.
Davis.	Pope.
DeBerry.	Porter.
Dielmann.	Powell.
Duvall.	Purl.
Enderby.	Rawlins.
Eickenroht.	Reagan.
Farrar.	Renfro
Faulk.	of Angelina.
Finlay.	Rogers of Hays.
Forbes.	Rogers of Shelby.
Foster.	Rowell.
Gates.	Runge.
Gilbert.	Sanders.
Graves.	Satterwhite.
Gray.	Shaver.
Hagaman.	Shearer.
Hall.	Sheats.
Harding.	Shirley.
Harman.	Simmons.
Hefley.	Sinks.
High.	Smith of Atascosa.
Hogg.	Smith of El Paso.
Holder.	Smith of Nueces.
Holland.	Smith of Smith.
Jacks.	Smyth.
Johnson	Snelgrove.
of Anderson.	Stevenson.
Johnson	Storey.
of Dimmit.	Stout.
Jones.	Swain.
Justice.	Taylor.
Kayton.	Teer.
Keeton.	Tillotson.
Kemble.	Turner.
Kennedy.	Van Zandt.
Kincaid.	Veatch.
King of Hopkins.	Waddell.
Kirkland.	Walker.

Wallace	Whitaker.
of Freestone.	Williams
Wallace of Panola.	of Sabine.
Wallace of Smith.	Williams
Ware.	of Travis.
Wassell.	Williamson.
Webb.	Woodall.
Wells.	Young.

Absent.

Brown.	Petsch.
Fuchs.	Renfro of Mills.
Loftin.	

Absent—Excused.

Avis.	Kinnear.
Conway.	Kirby.
Denman.	McKean.
Fly.	Merritt.
Dunlap.	Parish of Runnels.
Gibson.	Pool.
Hornaday.	Stell.
Kenyon.	Sutton.
King of	Woodruff.
Throckmorton.	

A quorum was announced present.
Prayer was offered by Rev. J. C. Mitchell, Chaplain.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

The following members were granted leaves of absence on account of important business:

Mr. Gibson for last Monday, Tuesday and today, on motion of Mr. Smith of Smith.

Mr. McKean for today, on motion of Mr. Rogers of Hays.

Mr. Woodruff for today, on motion of Mr. Cox.

Mr. Hornaday for today, on motion of Mr. Hefley.

Mr. Denman for today, on motion of Mr. Jones.

Mr. Fly for today, on motion of Mr. Williamson.

Mr. King of Throckmorton for yesterday and today, on motion of Mr. Boggs.

Mr. Merritt for today, on motion of Mr. Hall.

Mr. Parish of Runnels for today, on motion of Mr. Rogers of Shelby.

The following members were granted leaves of absence on account of illness:

Mr. Kinnear for today, on motion of Mr. Reagan.

Mr. Stell for last week and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, on motion of Mr. Webb.

RELATING TO ABOLISHING CERTAIN STATE DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. Reagan offered the following resolution:

H. R. C. No. 1, Requesting Governor to submit certain legislation.

Whereas, The report of the Committee on Appropriations has revealed the fact that the estimated revenues of the State of Texas at the present rate of taxation are inadequate to meet the demands made upon the Treasury by innumerable bureaus, commissions and departments; and

Whereas, It is necessary, fitting and proper to the maintenance of a government both free and orderly that the judicial and law enforcement machinery of the State be adequately compensated; and

Whereas, The recent increases in the salaries of district judges was just and right, and should not be decreased; and

Whereas, The present demands being made on the Treasury of the State will in spite of the high and burdensome tax rate make it impossible to pay these increased salaries; and

Whereas, There are various and divers commissions, departments and bureaus which have from time to time been created in this State and which exist at great expense to the people of Texas, and which serve no useful purpose, but rather are a nuisance, their operations are offensive and officious, and their very existence is subversive of the fundamental principles of free government; and

Whereas, Among the number of such useless departments is the State Board of Health, with its many employes and sinecures, consisting of such anomalies as an epidemiologist at a salary of \$2750, a pathologist at a like salary, a laboratory technician, supervisory nurses, maternity home inspectors, and hundreds of others, the total expense of maintenance of which is half a million dollars for the biennium, to be filched from the pockets of the struggling masses of this State, in spite of the fact that it is common knowledge that the existence of this board has never prevented an epidemic of any character or cured any disease within the knowledge of any person; and

Whereas, The Bureau of Labor Statistics has been created and exists under the laws of this State with appropriations for various and sundry salaries, traveling expenses and other expenses, both actual, contingent and imaginary; and

Whereas, The Department of Agriculture has been created and exists under the laws of this State, with a maintenance cost of a quarter of a million

dollars every two years, which serves no useful purpose, and no purpose whatever but to prosecute an unwarranted and officious interference in the affairs of the farmers of Texas; and

Whereas, The Game, Fish and Oyster Commission has been created and exists under the laws of this State and is a burden and a nuisance to the people, maintained at great cost to the taxpayers and serving no purpose but to curb the natural propensities of the people in the enjoyment of these natural activities which are the birthright of every freeman in this world; and

Whereas, There exists under the laws of this State what is called a Livestock Sanitary Commission, with a horde of cattle inspectors, scabies inspectors, veterinarians and assistant veterinarians, dipping experts, tubercular experts, traveling expense experts, and various other sinecures, which Commission exists at a cost of one million dollars each two years to the people of this State, and which serves no purpose but to occupy needed space in the Capitol Building and prosecutes a disgusting, unwarranted and tyrannical supervision over thousands of citizens of Texas who have spent a lifetime in the prosecution of stock breeding, who have made and are making a living at same, and who have a greater interest than anyone else in the world in the protection and preservation of their cattle, in that they own same; and

Whereas, The abolition and extermination of all the aforementioned departments would enable the State government to function with a lower tax rate and enable it to fittingly compensate the judicial and law enforcement branches of our government; now therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, That the Governor of Texas, the Honorable Dan Moody, be urged and petitioned by the Legislature of this State to submit at the present Special Session proper and appropriate bills seeking the extermination of the aforementioned departments, and of all offices and positions created thereunder, to the end that the people of Texas might enjoy a strengthened assurance that their money is usefully and economically spent, and that they will in the future be less burdened with a horde of tax-gatherers who infest this imperial State.

Signed—Reagan, Stout.

The resolution was read second time.

Mr. Runge offered the following amendment to the resolution:

Amend House concurrent resolution No. 1 by adding after last section of same the following:

"That, whereas, The abolition of the departments named in this resolution may cause some little inconvenience and disruption of the interests looked after by these departments; and

"Whereas, The Governor of the State may by reason of their abolition be harassed by ignorant and uninformed persons asking for relief in substitution of the departments abolished; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the authors of this resolution, the Hon. A. R. Stout and the Hon. A. S. Reagan, be appointed as an advisory commission to assist the Governor and the Board of Control in administering the affairs of State, with a view of assisting the State government in administering its affairs, and to the end that the State may have the benefit of the wisdom of these two gentlemen, so that if it be advisable to abolish the Legislature and the judiciary or other departments the State may have the benefit of their suggestions, and that their salary be fixed at \$50,000 each annually, and that there be no appeal from any method or suggestion made by them."

The amendment was adopted.

On motion of Mr. DeBerry, the resolution was tabled.

PROVIDING FOR PAY FOR POST-SESSION WORK FOR CHAIRMAN OF CONTINGENT EXPENSE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Kemble offered the following resolution:

Whereas, There was a vast amount of contingent expense matters which had to be attended to between the adjournment of the Regular Session of the Fortieth Legislature, on March 16, and the convening of the present Special Session, on May 9, the number of accounts handled and vouchers issued exceeding that of the Called Session of the Thirty-ninth Legislature, most of which work was done by the chairman of the committee, assisted by persons in his employ, at his home, which work entailed considerable extra correspondence because it was away from Austin; and

Whereas, The chairman of said committee made two trips to Austin, between the sessions mentioned, attending to the work of his committee while in Austin and taking him away from his home a total of eight days, not counting trips made at night; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the said chairman be paid for his time for the said eight days at the rate of five (\$5.00) dollars per day and his actual transportation expenses incurred in making the two trips mentioned, to be paid out of the contingent expense fund of the House.

Signed—Kemble, Pool, Hagaman, Powell, Sheats, Renfro, Montgomery, Teer, Holder, Young, Runge, Hefley, Hornaday, Cox, Hall, Wallace, Dielmann, Barron, Shaver, Kirby, Satterwhite, Petsch, Minor, Parrish of Travis.

The resolution was read second time and was adopted.

TO PAY MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Mr. Graves offered the following resolution:

Whereas, At the Regular Session of the Fortieth Legislature the House adopted a resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee of three, two to be appointed by the Speaker out of the membership of the House and one by the Attorney General, "to compile all the laws of this State pertaining to the public school system, eliminating duplication and preparing a codification of these laws to the end that the same may be simplified and unified to such an extent that they may be easily understood and interpreted," said committee being authorized to appoint one stenographer; and

Whereas, The Speaker appointed W. M. Harman and J. C. Duvall on the part of the House, and the Attorney General appointed Frank C. Gibson on said committee and the committee appointed Miss Opal Winn stenographer; and

Whereas, The work has been completed and a printed copy put on the desk of each member of the House and Senate; and

Whereas, It was necessary to work longer than the time allotted in the resolution, thereby exhausting the money appropriated for that purpose and leaving the committee and employes unpaid for part of the time; and

Whereas, It was necessary to appoint some extra stenographers in order to get the work out in time; and

Whereas, W. M. Harman worked fifteen days, Frank C. Gibson nine days, J. C. Duvall eight days, Miss Opal Winn six days, Mrs. Bess Beeman four days, Morris Hankins four days, Sam Hankins three days, for which they have not received any pay; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That each person named herein be allowed five dollars per day for the

number of days set forth herein; and be it further

Resolved, That W. M. Harman be allowed nine dollars and J. C. Duvall fifteen dollars for transportation.

Signed—Snelgrove, Graves.

The resolution was read second time and was adopted.

SENATE BILL NO. 2 ON SECOND READING.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading and passage to third reading,

S. B. No. 2, A bill to be entitled "An Act making appropriations to pay salaries of judges, and the support and maintenance of the judicial department of the State government for the two-year period beginning September 1, 1927, and ending August 31, 1929, and declaring an emergency."

The bill was read second time.

On motion of Mr. Sinks, further consideration of the bill was postponed until 2 o'clock p. m. next Tuesday.

HOUSE BILL NO. 2 ON SECOND READING.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading and passage to engrossment,

H. B. No. 2, A bill to be entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support and maintenance of the State government for the fiscal years ending August 31, 1928, and August 31, 1929, and declaring an emergency."

The bill was read second time.

Mr. Van Zandt moved that the House recess to 10 o'clock a. m. tomorrow, and the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Williamson, the House agreed to consider House bill No. 2 in the same manner in which they considered House bill No. 3.

(Pending reading of the amendments to be offered by the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Johnson of Anderson occupied the chair temporarily.)

RECESS.

On motion of Mr. Loftin, the House, at 11:45 o'clock a. m., took recess to 10 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

SEVENTH DAY.

(Continued.)

(Thursday, May 19, 1927.)

The House met at 10 o'clock a. m. and was called to order by Speaker Bobbitt.

HOUSE BILL NO. 2 ON PASSAGE TO ENGROSSMENT.

The House resumed consideration of pending business, same being

H. B. No. 2, A bill to be entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of State government,"

On its passage to engrossment.

Mr. Teer offered the following (committee) amendment to the section of the bill relating to the Adjutant General's Department:

Amend House bill No. 2, page 2, by striking out all of lines 20, 21, 22 and 23, and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "General maintenance and armories; provided, that no part of this fund shall be used to supplement or replace appropriated salaries, but may be used to pay additional help as needed, \$250,000 in each year."

Mr. Poage moved that House bill No. 2, being the departmental bill, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions to said committee that it is the sense of this House that the amounts appropriated by this bill be so reduced that when considered in connection with all other appropriation bills the State ad valorem tax rate for the next two years will not be required to exceed twenty-three cents on the one hundred dollars valuation.

Mr. Anderson moved to table the motion by Mr. Poage.

Yeas and nays were demanded, and the motion to table prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—76.

Mr. Speaker.	Holland.
Anderson.	Jacks.
Barnett.	Jones.
Barron.	Kayton.
Bass.	Keeton.
Beck.	Kemble.
Brown.	King of Hopkins.
Cox.	Lewis.
Dielmann.	Lipscomb.
Dunlap.	Long.
Duvall.	Masterson.
Fly.	McCombs.
Forbes.	McGill.
Foster.	Minor.
Gibson.	Morse.
Gilbert.	Murphy.
Hagaman.	Nabors.
Hall.	Nicholson.
Harding.	Parrish of Travis.
Harman.	Pope.
Hogg.	Porter.
Holder.	Powell.